AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A decorative band intended for surrounding the periphery of a food packaging, ~~(40)~~ the decorative band ~~which comprises~~ comprising:

a lateral annular wall ~~(44)~~ extending between a bottom ~~(43)~~ and an upper face ~~(42)~~, ~~said~~ the band extending longitudinally between two ends ~~(2)~~ and having a first and a second longitudinal edge ~~(3, 4),~~; ~~characterized in that it has~~

at least one first portion ~~(10, 11)~~ extending longitudinally, ~~which has~~ having a maximum width ~~Li,~~ L1; and

at least one second portion ~~(20, 21), which has~~ having a minimum width L2, ~~said~~ the minimum width L2 being between one third and two thirds of the maximum width ~~Li~~ L1, ~~and in that~~

wherein the first edge ~~(3)~~ is rectilinear and substantially parallel to ~~the~~ a longitudinal axis of the band.

14. (currently amended) The band as claimed in claim 13, wherein the second edge ~~(4)~~ has a convex profile along the first portion ~~(10, 11)~~ and a concave profile along the second

portion, ~~(20, 21), said~~ the convex profile being complementary to ~~said~~ the concave profile.

15. (currently amended) The band as claimed in either claim 13, wherein the second edge ~~(4)~~ has ~~the~~ a profile of a continuous wavy line.

16. (currently amended) The band as claimed in claim 13, wherein the maximum width ~~L1~~ L1 is substantially equal to ~~the~~ a maximum height H of the lateral wall ~~(44)~~ of the food packaging. ~~(40)~~

17. (currently amended) A strip of film material comprising printed designs ~~(7)~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the printed designs define, in ~~the~~ a direction of ~~the~~ a width of the strip ~~(6)~~, ~~the~~ a contour of an even number of rows ~~(31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36)~~ of bands ~~as claimed in claim 14~~, each band extending longitudinally between two ends and having a first and a second longitudinal edge, and having at least one first portion extending longitudinally and having a maximum width L1, and at least one second portion having a minimum width L2, the minimum width L2 being between one third and two thirds of the maximum width L1, and the first longitudinal edge being rectilinear and substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the band,

wherein the second edge has a convex profile along the

first portion and a concave profile along the second portion, the convex profile being complementary to the concave profile, and

wherein ~~said~~ the bands ~~(1) being~~ are arranged such that the second edges ~~(4)~~ of the bands of two successive rows are adjacent, and such that the first edge ~~(3)~~ of the first row ~~(31)~~ and the first edge of the last row ~~(36)~~ are contiguous to ~~the~~ longitudinal edges of the strip. ~~(6)~~

18. (currently amended) A food packaging having a lateral annular wall ~~(40)~~ extending between a bottom ~~(43)~~ and an upper face, ~~(42), characterized in that~~ wherein ~~the~~ a periphery of the lateral wall is surrounded by a decorative band, ~~as claimed in claim 13~~

the band extending longitudinally between two ends and having a first and a second longitudinal edge,

the band having at least one first portion extending longitudinally having a maximum width L1, and

the band having at least one second portion having a minimum width L2, the minimum width L2 being between one third and two thirds of the maximum width L1,

wherein the first longitudinal edge is rectilinear and substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the band.

19. (currently amended) The food packaging as claimed in claim 18,

wherein the lateral annular wall ~~(44)~~ has a cross section which is substantially in the shape of a rectangle with rounded corners, and

~~in which~~ wherein at least one first portion ~~(10)~~ of maximum width ~~Li~~ L1 is arranged on a large side of the lateral wall of the packaging.

20. (currently amended) A method for the production of bands ~~as claimed in claim 13~~ intended for surrounding the periphery of a food packaging, each band extending longitudinally between two ends and having a first and a second longitudinal edge, each band having at least one first portion extending longitudinally and having a maximum width L1, and each band having at least one second portion with a minimum width L2, ~~characterized in that it comprises a step of~~ comprising the step of:

cutting out the first and second longitudinal edges ~~(3, 4)~~ of the bands,

~~in which~~ wherein at least the cutting out of the second longitudinal edge ~~(4) of the bands~~ is carried out by means of a device ~~(50)~~ comprising at least one movable laser beam[[,]] in such a way that the minimum width L2 of the bands is between one third and two thirds of the maximum width ~~Li~~ L1[[,]] and the first edge ~~(3)~~ is rectilinear and substantially parallel to ~~the~~ a longitudinal axis of the band.

21. (currently amended) The method for the production of bands as claimed in claim 20, wherein the step of cutting out the longitudinal edges is carried out in a strip of film material ~~(6) as claimed in claim 5~~ having longitudinal edges and comprising printed designs, the printed designs defining, in a direction of a width of the strip, a contour of an even number of rows of the bands arranged on the strip such that the second longitudinal edges of the bands of two successive rows are adjacent, and such that the first longitudinal edge of the band of the first row and the first longitudinal edge of the band of the last row are contiguous to the longitudinal edges of the strip,

the strip ~~which travels~~ traveling with respect to the laser cutting-out device, ~~(50), the~~ movements of the laser beam being synchronized with the travel of the strip.

22. (currently amended) A method for the production of food packagings ~~as claimed in claim 18~~, having a lateral annular wall extending between a bottom and an upper face, wherein the periphery of the lateral wall is surrounded by a decorative band, the band extending longitudinally between two ends and having a first and a second longitudinal edge, the band having at least one first portion extending longitudinally having maximum width

L1, and the band having at least one second portion having a minimum width L2, the minimum width L2 being between one third and two thirds of the maximum width L1, the first edge being rectilinear and substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the band, the method comprising [[a]] the ~~step~~ steps of:

thermoforming the packagings ~~(40)~~ in molds ~~(55),~~;

cutting out the longitudinal edges of the bands;

after the cutting step, delivering striplets thus obtained as far as the molds; and

cutting out the ends of the bands, which is carried out in the vicinity of the molds ~~characterized in that it comprises a step of cutting out the longitudinal edges of the bands as claimed in claim 9, followed by a step of delivering the striplets thus obtained as far as the molds, and by a step of cutting out the ends (2) of the bands, which is carried out in the vicinity of the molds~~.

23. (canceled)